



## **MONTANA STATE HOSPITAL POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

### **INTERSTATE COMPACT ON MENTAL HEALTH**

**Effective Date:** September 8, 2003

**Policy #:** AD-05

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- I. PURPOSE:** To specify responsibilities for the admission and transfer of patients to and from out-of-state mental health facilities under the provisions of the interstate compact on mental health.
- II. POLICY:** Montana State Hospital has an obligation to appropriately return patients to their home state for provision of necessary mental health services and psychiatric hospitalization. Montana residents needing in-patient mental health treatment may choose to receive treatment at Montana State Hospital rather than remain in an out-of-state facility.

Under the provisions of Interstate Mental Health Compact Transfer, a "patient may be transferred from MSH to an institution in another state whenever there are factors based upon clinical determinations indicating that the care and treatment of said patient may be facilitated thereby. Any such inpatient care may be for the entire period of care and treatment or for any portion or portions thereof." The patient transferred under the provisions of Interstate Mental Health Compact Transfer cannot be a patient of more than one facility at any given time. Montana State Hospital is responsible for transportation costs. Once the interstate transfer has been completed, the responsibilities and obligations of MSH toward the patient cease.

Similarly, when determined appropriate, patients may be admitted to Montana State Hospital under the provisions of the Interstate Compact on Mental Health in order to facilitate treatment and be closer to family members and community support systems.

### **III. DEFINITIONS:**

- A. Interstate Compact on Mental Health – cooperative agreement between the states establishing procedures for returning individuals requiring mental health treatment to their home state, 53-21-101, M.C.A.

### **IV. RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- A. Chief of Social Work – to make referrals and contacts with regard to interstate compact transfers.

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A. Treatment teams will refer patients to the Chief of Social Work for possible transfer to an out-of-state facility under the provisions of the Interstate Compact on Mental Health. The Chief of Social Work will confer with the Medical Director, the Hospital Administrator and other appropriate staff members regarding the admission of persons under provisions of the Interstate Compact.

**VI. REFERENCES:** 53-21-101, M.C.A., and #AD-01 Admissions Policy for MSH.

**VI. COLLABORATED WITH:** Hospital Administrator, Medical Director

**VIII. RESCISSIONS:** AD-02, *Discharge Policy* dated May 15, 2001

**IX. DISTRIBUTION:** All hospital policy manuals

**X. REVIEW AND REISSUE DATE:** September 2006

**XI. FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY:** Chief of Social Work

**XII. ATTACHMENTS:** None

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Thomas Gray Date  
Medical Director